



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

DA 12-410

March 15, 2012

Stephen D. Baruch  
Counsel to Skybox Imaging, Inc.  
Lerman Senter PLLC  
2000 K Street, NW  
Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20006

Re: Skybox Imaging, Inc., IBFS File No. SAT-LOA-20111222-00246 (Call Sign: S2851)

Dear Mr. Baruch:

This letter dismisses, as unacceptable for filing, the above-referenced application for launch and operating authority for two non-geostationary-orbit (NGSO) Earth Exploration Satellite Service (EESS) space stations filed by Skybox Imaging, Inc. (Skybox).<sup>1</sup>

Section 25.112(a) of the Commission's rules states that an application will be returned as unacceptable for filing if it is not substantially complete and consistent with the Commission's rules.<sup>2</sup> Skybox's NGSO EESS application fails to provide information required by three provisions of the Commission's rules: (1) the predicted gain contours required by Section 25.114(d)(3); (2) a link performance analysis required by Section 25.114(d)(4) for the second of Skybox's two NGSO EESS satellites, SkySat-2; and (3) downlink power flux density (PFD) levels for SkySat-2, required by Section 25.114(c)(8).<sup>3</sup> See 47 C.F.R. §§ 25.114(c)(8), (d)(3), & (d)(4). Accordingly, we dismiss Skybox's application, without prejudice to re-filing.

We note that Skybox states that SkySat-2 will operate with an altitude in the range of 450 to 637 km, and that the exact orbit of SkySat-2 will be determined at a future date.<sup>4</sup> In any re-filed application, Skybox should submit information sufficient to address the full range of

---

<sup>1</sup> If Skybox re-files an application identical to the one dismissed, with the exception of supplying the corrected information, it need not pay an application fee. See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1111(d).

<sup>2</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 25.112(a).

<sup>3</sup> With respect to the link budget and PFD for SkySat-2, we would consider appropriate a link budget calculated based on the highest anticipated orbital altitude and a downlink PFD levels calculated based on the lowest anticipated orbital altitude.

<sup>4</sup> See Application, Exhibit 43 at 2.

possible altitudes for Skybox 2. Manned spacecraft, including the International Space Station, may operate at the lower end of the range of altitudes specified for SkySat-2. Accordingly, any re-filed request for approval for low-earth orbit operations must include the full range of measures (such as maintaining a minimum distance separation) and coordination that will be undertaken to address risks to inhabitable orbiting objects.<sup>5</sup>

Sincerely,

Robert G. Nelson  
Chief, Satellite Division  
International Bureau

---

<sup>5</sup> See *Mitigation of Orbital Debris*, Second Report and Order, 19 FCC Rcd 11567, para. 56 (2004).